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Dated: September 29, 2006

Signature: 

(Wendy Balaban)

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Docket No.: 65765-0186

(PATENT)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Norman Blank et al.

Application No.: National Phase of PCT/EP2005/051409 Confirmation No.: N/A

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Filed Concurrently Herewith

For: FASTENING ELEMENT FOR FASTENING TO
A BASE ELEMENT

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 27 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 32 of this paper.